

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON PINT CY

SUBJECT: ROME MEETING ON CYPRUS

REF: STATE 222999

1. BELIEVE US CONTINGENT SHOULD BE AWARE OF FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS.
2. UN-SPONSORED TALKS SEEM TO HAVE DEADLOCKED ON SUBSTANCE, ALTHOUGH NEITHER SIDE SAYS THIS PUBLICLY. IN MEETING SUCH AS NOV 19/24 AFFAIR, BOTH SIDES PRESUMABLY WILL WISH TO SEEM REASONABLE. THIS WOULD BE USEFUL OCCASION TO PRESS BOTH SIDES AS TO HOW THE DELICATE ISSUE OF THE AMOUNT OF GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY TO BE GIVEN TO THE TURKISH COMMUNITY CAN BE RESOLVED. (THIS IS THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSE OF PRESENT IMPASSE.) IF CYPRIOT PARTICIPANTS (PARTICULARLY DENKTASH) PRESS INTRANSIGENT POSITIONS ON THIS POINT, THEY SHOULD BE NEEDLED AS TO WHAT THEY EXPECT TO DO IF THEY ALLOW TALKS TO FAIL. FROM OUR STANDPOINT, PURPOSE OF SUCH AN EXERCISE WOULD BE TO FORCE COMMUNAL SPOKESMEN TO DEAL SERIOUSLY WITH IMPLICATIONS OF INTRANSIGENCE ON LOCAL GOVT ISSUE.

3. FUTURE OF UNFICYP IS BEING DISCUSSED. UNSYG IS LEANING

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TOWARD CUTS TOTALING 24PC (ABOUT 2400). SUCH CUT TO BE CON-

TINGENT UPON PROMISES (WHICH PROBABLY ARE UNATTAINABLE)
FROM GREEKS AND TURKS CONCERNING THE DECONFRONTATION AND
WILLINGNESS TO KEEP PEACE. USG BELIEVES A UN PRESENCE
SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXIST ON ISLAND, MAY BE REQUIRED FOR
CONSIDERABLE PERIOD IN LIGHT STATUS OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS,
BUT THAT UNFICYP OF PRESENT SIZE IS UNNECESSARY AND PROBABLY
COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. IN VIEW OF MOUNTING DEFICIT, EFFORT TO
MAINTAIN AT PRESENT SIZE COULD IMPERIL ITS FUTURE. WE RE-
COMMEND PHASED REDUCTION TO OBSERVER/MEDIATOR GROUP. WE
THINK REQUIREMENT FOR FORMAL PROMISES FROM GREEKS AND TURKS
MAY BE SIMPLY A DEVICE TO FORESTALL REDUCTION. IN FACT,
BOTH SIDES HAVE SINCE 1967 CRISIS SHOWN CONSIDERABLE RE-
STRAINT AND AVOIDED CREATING SITUATIONS WHICH COULD LEAD
TO HOSTILITIES. DENKTASH PARTICULARLY MAY ARGUE FOR CON-
TINUED LARGE UNFICYP PRESENCE, CLAIMING TURKISH MINORITY NEEDS
PROTECTION. IN FACT, ITS TRUE PROTECTION LIES IN MUTUAL
RESTRAINT AND ULTIMATELY IN PROXIMITY OF TURKEY. UNFICYP
AT PRESENT SIZE FAR FROM LARGE ENOUGH TO IMPOSE PEACE IF
GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS WANTED WAR.
GRANT

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